



CITY OF TUCSON

# MEDIA RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Solar Installation is the First of Seven Solar Projects for the City of Tucson  
**CITY TO DEDICATE NEWEST SOLAR INSTALLATION  
AT EL PUEBLO ACTIVITY CENTER**

On Friday May 29, 2009, at 10:00 AM, the City of Tucson will dedicate its newest solar installation at the El Pueblo Activity Center, 101 W. Irvington Road, Tucson, Arizona.

Speakers will include Mayor Bob Walkup, Council Member Steve Leal, Paul Bonavia, Tucson Electric Power (TEP) President and CEO, and Jason Coughlin of the U. S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colorado. Representatives from the congressional offices of Gabrielle Giffords and Raul Grijalva will also be present.

Interviews with speakers and project participants will be available after the event.

The roof-mounted 100 kW system uses racks produced by Schletter, Inc., a Tucson solar company. Kyocera Solar, also an Arizona based company, supplied the 465 solar panels that will produce approximately 150,000 kWh per year - enough to power about 14 Tucson homes and reduce greenhouse gases by about 120 metric tons per year. The photovoltaic system will meet approximately 20 percent of the building's electric load.

Constantly updated information about the electric production will be available to the public on a kiosk at the El Pueblo Activity Center as well as on the city's energy office web site at <http://view2.fatspaniel.net/PV2Web/merge?&view=PV/standard/Simple&eid=265179>.

El Pueblo Activity Center is the first of seven solar projects now being built by SPG Solar for the City of Tucson and financed by \$7.6 million in interest-free Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs). All of the solar installations will be completed by December and are estimated to save the City \$3.4 million over the 25 year system life. Repayment of the bonds will come in part from TEP's SunShare program financial incentives. More information is available at <http://www.ci.tucson.az.us/agdocs/20090127/jan27-09-56.pdf>

All seven installations have been designed and are being built by SPG Solar, Inc., based in Novato, California. SPG recently opened a regional office in Tucson and has hired approximately 40 local workers. SPG will also maintain and guarantee electrical output from these solar installations over the next 10 years.



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El Pueblo Solar

The City of Tucson celebrates 10 years of installing solar power systems on city facilities this year. Tucson has also received financial and technical assistance through the Solar America Cities Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). El Pueblo's solar installation serves as part of the City's match for this two-year grant. More details about Solar America Cities and the 25 U. S. cities committed to accelerating the adoption of solar energy technologies are available online at [www.solaramericacities.energy.gov](http://www.solaramericacities.energy.gov).

More information about Tucson's solar program is available at <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/energy/solarintucson.htm>.

More information about SPG Solar is available at <http://www.spgsolar.com>.

More information on TEP's solar programs is available at <http://www.tucsonelectric.com/Green>.

More information about Schletter, Inc is available at <http://www.schletter-inc.us>.

If you require an accommodation or materials in accessible format or require a foreign language interpreter or materials in a language other than English for this event, call Katie McDonald, 791-3111 ext 112 at least five business days in advance.

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